From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

Date of mailing   Date of ma	To: John S. Pratt Kilpatrick Stockton LLP Suite 2800 1100 Peachtree Street Atlanta, Georgia 30309	PCT  NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION		
Applicant's or agent's file reference 32513/335452  FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below International application No. PC7TUS06/41354  Applicant NICOLON CORPORATION  International filing date Applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith. Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19: The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46): When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report and the written opinion of the laternational the international search report. Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Fassimile No.: 441 E2 740 14 35 For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.  1. The applicant is entitled that on international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.  3. With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that: the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant explosed the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.  In o decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant and the decision thereon to the designated Offices and the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90/bit. and 90/b		(PCT Rule 44.1)		
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International application No.   PCT/US06/41354   PCT/US	Applicant's or agent's file reference	FOR HURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below		
PCT/US06/41354   23 October 2006	32513/335452	POR PORTILE ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 1 see		
1. A The applicant is hereby notified that the international search report and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.  Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19:  The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46):  Wher? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report.  Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes  12.11 Geneva 20. Switzerland, Facsimile No.: +41 22 740 14 35  For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.  2. The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.  3. With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:  the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.  A Reminders  Shortly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the protruct claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rule 99ths. I and 99bits. I are 19bits. I are 19bi				
Authority have been established and are transmitted herewith.  Filing of amendments and statement under Article 19: The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the claims of the international application (see Rule 46): When? The time limit for filing such amendments is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the international search report.  Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WIPO, 34 chemin des Colombettes 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Fassimile No.: +41 22 740 14 35 For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the accompanying sheet.  The applicant is hereby notified that no international search report will be established and that the declaration under Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.    With regard to the protest against payment of (an) additional fee(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:   the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.   no decision has been made yet on the protest; the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.   Reminders	Applicant NICOLON CORPORATION			
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the protest together with the decision thereon has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.  1. Reminders  1. Reminders  1. Reminders  1. Reminders  1. Shortly after the expiration of 18 menths from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis. In additional application of the international application of the technical preparations for international publication.  1. The applicant may athenic comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Poblis. In an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Poblis. The applicant may athenic comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Poblis. The applicant may athenic examination report has been or it to be established. These comments would also be meanible to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination on the entry of the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date, perform from the priority date, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date, perform from the priority date, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date, perform from the pri	Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the International Searching Authority are transmitted netewing			
applicant's request to forward the texts of both the protest and the decision thereon to the easygnated Ornices.  4. Reminders  Shortly after the expiration of 18 menths from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the proteinty claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90b/s.1 and 90b/s.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international Bureau as provided in Rules 90b/s.1 and 90b/s.3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international Bureau and International Bureau. The International Dureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international perliminary examination report has been or is to be esubhished. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.  Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices cover later), otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date (in some Offices cover later), otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before these designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months for the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before these designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months for the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before these designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months for the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before these designated Offices, the t				
4. Reminders  Shortly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international application, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bts 1 and 90bts 3, respectively, before the completion of the technical preparations for international publication.  The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Scarching Authority. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless the international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.  Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even laser), observise, the application of the entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.  In respect of other designated Offices, the inte limit of 30 months (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.  See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.  Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mata Sep PCT, Alexandria, Virgina 22313-1450  Balance RC Copenheaver  PC Bos 1496, Bearandria, Virgina 22313-1450	applicant's request to forward the texts of both	the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.		
Sortly after the expiration of 18 months from the priority date, the international application will be published by the International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international asplication, or of the priority claim, must reach the International Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis 1 and 90bis 3, respectively, before the completion of the betherial preparations for international publication.  The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on the written opinion of the International Scarching Authority to the International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an international printing yexamination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date.  Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international perlamentation must be filed if the applicant washes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices cover laser), otherwise, the applicant must, "this 20 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.  In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices, and mainly address of the 18A/US manufacture of the properties of the	no decision has been made yet on the protest; t	the applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.		
International Bureau. The International Bureau will send a copy of such comments to all designated Unites unless an international preliminary examination report has been or is to be established. These comments would also be made available to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the priority date. Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later), otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date (in some Offices even later), otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 months from the priority date, performed the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices, the months from the priority date, performed the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices. In tem limit of 30 months for later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.  See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.  Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  Mail Sup PCT: Alter, ISA/US  Mail Sup PCT: Alter, ISA/US  Balance, Copenheaver  FOR 80 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	Shortly after the expiration of 18 months from the prio International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or application, or of the priority claim, must reach the Internati- before the completion of the technical preparations for inter- The applicant may submit compruest on an informal basis or	postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal or the international onal Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, lational publication.		
examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone the entry into the national phase until 30 means from the princip date (in some Offices even later), otherwise, the applicant must, within 20 nonths from the princip date, performing the prescribed acts for entry into the national phase before those designated Offices.  In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of 30 meants for later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.  See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.  Name and mailing address of the ISA/US  Mail Stop PCT Alter, ISA/US  Mail Stop PCT Alter, ISA/US  Mail Stop PCT Alter, ISA/US  Blaine R. Copenheaver  F. O. Bos 1486, ISA/US  Blaine R. Copenheaver	International Bureau. The International Bureau will sent international preliminary examination report has been or is to the public but not before the expiration of 30 months from the public but not before th	i a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an o be established. These comments would also be made available to be priority date.		
In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of 30 months (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19 months.  See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.  Name and mailing address of the ISA/US Mail Sop PCT, Altr. ISAA/IS Commissioner for Petents  Commissioner for Petents  PO. 80s 1496, Nearondra, Virginia 22313-1450	examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant mu	ethe entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority ast, within 20 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed		
See the Annex to Form PCT/B/9/01 and, for details about the applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the PCT Applicant's Guide, Volume II, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet site.  Name and mailting address of the ISA/US Mail Stop PCT, Altr. ISA/US Commissioner for Patents PC - 0.8 to 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  Blaine R. Copenheaver	In respect of other designated Offices, the time limit of 30	months (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19		
Nami Stop PCT, Attr. ISAVIS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Alexandris, Virginia 22313-1450  Blaine R. Copenheaver	See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about th	te applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the PCT Applicant's site.		
Nami Stop PCT, Attri ISAVIS Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450, Meandris, Virginia 22313-1450  Blaine R. Copenheaver	Name and mailing address of the ISA/IIS	Authorized officer:		
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US			
	P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450			

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY		
To: John S. Pratt Kilpatrick Stockton LLP	PCT	
Suite 2800 1100 Peachtree Street Atlanta, Georgia 30309	NOTIFICATION OF TRANSMITTAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT AND THE WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY, OR THE DECLARATION	
	(PCT Rule 44.1)	
	Date of mailing (day/month/year) 1 0 JAN 2008	
Applicant's or agent's file reference 32513/335452	FOR FURTHER ACTION See paragraphs 1 and 4 below	
International application No. PCT/US06/41354	International filing date (day/month/year) 23 October 2006	
Applicant NICOLON CORPORATION		
The applicant is hereby notified that the international s     Authority have been established and are transmitted he	earch report and the written opinion of the International Searching rewith.	
Filing of amendments and statement under Article 1 The applicant is entitled, if he so wishes, to amend the	claims of the international application (see Rule 40):	
When? The time limit for filing such amendme international search report.	nts is normally two months from the date of transmittal of the	
Where? Directly to the International Bureau of WI 1211 Geneva 20, Switzerland, Facsimile N	PO, 34 chemin des Colombettes	
For more detailed instructions, see the notes on the		
The applicant is hereby notified that no international Article 17(2)(a) to that effect and the written opinion of the content of the con	search report will be established and that the declaration under f the International Searching Authority are transmitted herewith.	
3. With regard to the protest against payment of (an) ac	dditional fec(s) under Rule 40.2, the applicant is notified that:	
the protest together with the decision thereon is applicant's request to forward the texts of both	has been transmitted to the International Bureau together with the the protest and the decision thereon to the designated Offices.	
no decision has been made yet on the protest; t	he applicant will be notified as soon as a decision is made.	
4. Reminders	to the decision of the multiplication will be published by the	
International Bureau. If the applicant wishes to avoid or application, or of the priority claim, must reach the Internation before the completion of the technical preparations for international preparations for international preparations.	rity date, the international application will be published by the postpone publication, a notice of withdrawal of the international nonal Bureau as provided in Rules 90bis.1 and 90bis.3, respectively, ational publication.	
The applicant may submit comments on an informal basis on	the written opinion of the International Searching Authority to the a copy of such comments to all designated Offices unless an be established. These comments would also be made available to	
Within 19 months from the priority date, but only in respect examination must be filed if the applicant wishes to postpone date (in some Offices even later); otherwise, the applicant must	of some designated Offices, a demand for international preliminary the entry into the national phase until 30 months from the priority last, within 20 months from the priority date, perform the prescribed	
	Offices.  months (or later) will apply even if no demand is filed within 19	
months.  See the Annex to Form PCT/IB/301 and, for details about th  Guide, Volume 11, National Chapters and the WIPO Internet	e applicable time limits, Office by Office, see the PCT Applicant's	
Guide, volume II, National Chapters and the WIFO Internet		
Name and mailing address of the ISA/US	Authorized officer:	
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents	Blaine R. Copenheaver	
P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. 571-273-3201	Telephone No. 571-272-7774	

## **PCT**

#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

(PCT Article 18 and Rules 43 and 44)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 32513/335452	FOR FURTHER ACTION	see Form PCT/ISA/220 as well as, where applicable, item 5 below.				
International application No.	International filing date (day/me	onth/year) (Earliest) Priority Date (day/month/year)				
PCT/US06/41354	23 October 2006	25 October 2005				
Applicant NICOLON CORPORATION						
according to Article 18. A copy is being.  This international search report consists	g transmitted to the International I					
It is also accompanied by a	copy of each prior art document	cited in this report.				
1. Basis of the report						
a. With regard to the language, the	e international search was carried	out on the basis of:				
the international app	lication in the language in which	it was filed				
	nternational application intoshed for the purposes of internation	onal search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b))				
b. With regard to any nucleon	tide and/or amino acid sequence	e disclosed in the international application, see Box No. 1.				
2. Certain claims were foun	d unsearchable (see Box No. II)					
3. Unity of invention is lack	ing (see Box No. III)					
4. With regard to the title,						
the text is approved as sub	mitted by the applicant					
	ed by this Authority to read as foll	lows:				
the CAT has been established by this reality to feed as robotal.						
<ol><li>With regard to the abstract,</li></ol>						
the text is approved as sub						
		this Authority as it appears in Box No. IV. The applicant national search report, submit comments to this Authority				
6. With regard to the drawings,						
a. the figure of the drawings to be	published with the abstract is Fig	gure No. 2				
as suggested by the a	applicant					
as selected by this A	uthority, because the applicant fai	iled to suggest a figure				
as selected by this A	uthority, because this figure better	r characterizes the invention				
b. none of the figures is to be	published with the abstract					

#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US06/41354

30x No. 1V Text of the abstract (Continuation of item 5 of the first sheet) Methods, systems, and apparatus for a fill port for a flexible container such as a flexible self supporting dewatering structure. An apparatus in accordance with an embodiment of the invention can be a fill port for a flexible container such as a flexible self supporting dewatering structure, wherein the flexible container can include a flexible material and an opening. The fill port can include an inner port body capable of mounting to one side of the flexible material and adjacent to the opening, wherein inner port body is capable of receiving a fill material through the opening. The fill port can also include an outer port body capable of mounting to an opposing side of the flexible material adjacent to the opening, wherein outer port body is capable of receiving the fill material through the opening.

#### INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand

PCT/US06/41354

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

IPC(8) - E02B 03/12 (2007.01)

USPC - 405/19

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

#### B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC(8) - E02B 03/12, 03/04, 03/06, 03/08, 03/12, 03/14; E02D 17/20; F16L 05/00 (2007.01)

USPC - 405/15-35, 302.7; 383/904; 403/261; 285/139.1, 142.1, 413, 414

USPC - 403/15-35, 302.7, 303/304, 403/201, 203/103.1, 142.1, 110, 111

Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
USPTO EAST System (US, USPG-PUB, EPO, DERWENT), MicroPatent

#### C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
×	US 6,623,214 B1 (HAUSKE et al) 23 September 2003 (23.09.2003) entire document	1, 2, 4-11, 13-21, 23-31, 33-39
Υ		3, 12, 22, 32
Y	US 6,264,251 B1 (KUNSMAN et al) 24 July 2001 (24.07.2001) entire document	3, 12, 22, 32
A	US 4,965,491 A (SAMPLE) 30 October 1990 (30.10.1990) entire document	1-39
A	US 5,481,790 A (KOREIS et al) 09 January 1996 (09.01.1996) entire document	1-39
A	US 5,826,919 A (BRAVO et al) 27 October 1998 (27.10.1998) entire document	1-39

A	to be of particular relevance		the principle or theory underlying the invention
·Е"	earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date	"X"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive
L"	document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is		step when the document is taken alone
	cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)	"Y"	document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is
·O''	document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means		combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art
·L.	document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed		document member of the same patent family
Date	of the actual completion of the international search	Date	of mailing of the international search report
08 N	March 2007		1 J JAN 2008
Nam	ne and mailing address of the ISA/US	-	authorized officer:
fail S	Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US, Commissioner for Patents Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	PCTE	Blaine R. Copenheaver
Facs	imile No. 571-273-3201		SP: 571-272-7774

Special categories of cited documents:

From the INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY PCT To: John S. Pratt Kilnatrick Stockton LLP Suite 2800 WRITTEN OPINION OF THE 1100 Peachtree Street INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY Atlanta, Georgia 30309 (PCT Rule 43bis.1) Date of mailing 1 3 JAN 2008 (day/month/year) FOR FURTHER ACTION Applicant's or agent's file reference See paragraph 2 below 32513/335452 International filing date (day/month/year) Priority date (day/month/year) International application No. 25 October 2005 PCT/US06/41354 23 October 2006 International Patent Classification (IPC) or both national classification and IPC IPC(8) - E02B 03/12 (2007.01) USPC - 405/19 Applicant NICOLON CORPORATION This opinion contains indications relating to the following items: Box No. I Basis of the opinion Box No. II Priority Box No. III Non-establishment of opinion with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability Box No. IV Lack of unity of invention Reasoned statement under Rule 43bis.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; Box No. V citations and explanations supporting such statement Box No. VI Certain documents cited Box No. VII Certain defects in the international application Box No. VIII Certain observations on the international application 2. FURTHER ACTION If a demand for international preliminary examination is made, this opinion will be considered to be a written opinion of the International Preliminary Examining Authority ("IPEA") except that this does not apply where the applicant chooses an Authority other than this one to be the IPEA and the chosen IPEA has notified the International Bureau under Rule 66.1bis(b) that written opinions of this International Searching Authority will not be so considered. If this opinion is, as provided above, considered to be a written opinion of the IPEA, the applicant is invited to submit to the IPEA a written reply together, where appropriate, with amendments, before the expiration of 3 months from the date of mailing of Form PCT/ISA/220 or before the expiration of 22 months from the priority date, whichever expires later.

i	Name and mailing address of the ISA/US	Date of completion of this opinion	Authorized officer:
	Mail Stop PCT, Attn: ISA/US Commissioner for Patents	08 March 2007	Blaine Copenheaver
	P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	oo maran 2007	PCT Helpdesk: 571-272-4300
	Facsimile No. 571-273-3201		PCT OSP: 571-272-7774

For further options, see Form PCT/ISA/220.

3. For further details, see notes to Form PCT/ISA/220.

# WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No. PCT/US06/41354

оx	No. I	Basis of this opinion
	M th	rd to the language, this opinion has been established on the basis of:  e international application in the language in which it was filed  translation of the international application into  anslation furnished for the purposes of international search (Rules 12.3(a) and 23.1(b)).
2.	claimed i	ard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application and necessary to the invention, this opinion has been established on the basis of: of material a sequence listing table(s) related to the sequence listing
	b. forma	nt of material on paper in electronic form
	c. time	of filing/furnishing contained in the international application as filed filed together with the international application in electronic form furnished subsequently to this Authority for the purposes of search
3.	— f	n addition, in the case that more than one version or copy of a sequence listing and/or table(s) relating thereto has been itled or furnished, the required statements that the information in the subsequent or additional copies is identical to that the application as filed or does not go beyond the application as filed, as appropriate, were furnished.
4.	Addition	al comments:

#### WRITTEN OPINION OF THE INTERNATIONAL SEARCHING AUTHORITY

International application No PCT/US06/41354

Box No. V Reasoned statement under Recitations and explanations sup			der Rule 43 <i>b</i> ons supporti	ois.1(a)(i) with regard to novelty, inventive step or in ng such statement	dustrial applicability;
1.	Stateme	ent			
	Nov	elty (N)	Claims	3, 12, 22, 32	YES
	1407	city (11)	Claims	1, 2, 4-11, 13-21, 23-31 and 33-39	NO
	Inves	entive step (IS)	Claims	None	YES
	inventive step (13)	Claims	1-39	NO	
	r. a.	strial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-39	YES
	indi	istrial applicationity (171)	Claims	None	NO

#### Citations and explanations:

Claims 1, 2, 4-11, 13-21, 23-31 and 33-39 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by Hauske et al. With respect to 1, 2 and 4-9, Hauske et al. discloses [Cl. 1] a method for providing a fill port (144, figs. 10-12; col.9, lines 15-63) for a flexible container (146) comprising a flexible material (col. 1, lines 18-21 and col. 9, lines 17-18), the method comprising mounting an inner port body (154) to one side of a flexible material associated with a container, wherein the inner port body is capable of receiving a fill material (col. 9, lines 15-18), mounting an outer port body (160) to an opposing side of the flexible material (146; see figs. 10-12), wherei the outer port body is capable of transferring the fill material to the inner port body, advancing a portion of the inner port body towards a portion of the outer port body (col. 9, lines 24-26), wherein a portion of the flexible material is positioned proximate to and between the inner port body and the outer port body (146, 154, 160; see figs. 10-12); and creating at least one opening in the flexible material (col. 9, lines 52-63, in particular lines 60-63) to permit the fill material to be transferred through the outer port body, the at least one opening, and to the inner port body; [Cl. 2] wherein the inner port body and outer port body comprise corresponding flat ring-shaped structures (figs. 10-12); [Cl. 4] wherein advancing a portion of the inner port body towards a portion of the outer port body comprises use of at least one of the following devices: bolt, clamp, adhesive, weld, or rivet (bolt, 162, 164); [Cl. 5] wherein advancing a portion of the inner port body towards a portion of the outer port body comprises clamping the portion of the flexible material relative to the inner port body and outer port body (as shown in fig. 12); [Cl. 6] wherein creating at least one opening in the flexible material to permit the fill material to be transferred through the inner port body comprises cutting a portion of the flexible material clamped between the inner port body and the outer port body (col. 9, lines 60-63); [Cl. 7] mounting an inner gasket (156) between the inner port body and the one side of the flexible material, and mounting an outer gasket (158) between the outer port body and the opposing side of the flexible material (col. 9, lines 20-39; figs. 10-12); [Cl. 8] mounting a flow line (172) to the outer port body, wherein the flow line is capable of providing the fill material to the outer port body and to the flexible container; [Cl. 9] wherein the flexible material comprises a flexible fabric (col. 1, lines 18-21 and col. 9, lines 17-18). Regarding claims 10, 11 and 13-19, [Cl. 10] (see explanation of claim 1); [Cl. 11] (see explanation of claim 2); [Cl. 13] (see explanation of claim 4); [Cl. 14] (see explanation of claim 5); [Cl. 15] (see explanation of claim 6); [Cl. 16] (see explanation of claim 7); [Cl. 17] (see explanation of claim 8); [Cl. 18] a sleeve (166) capable of mounting to the outer port body, and further capable of mounting to a flow line (172), wherein a fill material can be transmitted from the flow line, through the sleeve, and to the outer port body (col. 9, lines 40-48); and [Cl. 19] (see explanation of claim 9).

Regarding claims 20, 21 and 23-29, Hauske et al. discloses [Cl. 20] (see explanation of claims 1, 4 and 5) pumping the fill material through the outer port body, the at least one opening, and the inner port body (col. 8, inns 53-56); [Cl. 21] (see explanation of claim 5, [Cl. 24] (see explanation of claim 5, [Cl. 25] (see explanation of claim 6, [Cl. 26] (see explanation of claim 6); [Cl. 36] (see explanation of claim 7); [Cl. 37] (see

Claims 3, 12, 22 and 32 lack an inventive step under PCT Article 33(3) as being obvious over thaske et al. in view of Kunsman et al. With respect to claims 3, 12, 22, and 32, Hauske et al. discloses the method of providing, the method of using, the combine of and a flip port for a fexible container of claims 2, 10, 20 and 30, but lacks the teaching of the corresponding flat insubpact structures each comprise one or more cellular surfaces. Kunsman et al. shows a coupling for attaching the few end of a pipe to a flanged connector (asbratch) and a segmented flange coupler (50, 52) having a plurally of cellular surfaces (figs. 10, 12, 17 and 23). It would have been obvious to one of ordnary skell in the art at the time of the invention to use the cellular surfaces in the flat ring-shaped structures of Hauske et al., as taught by Kunsman et al., to save material and for force distribution.

Claims 1-39 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.